Involvement of rural people in rural development

1256. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering involvement of the rural people in planning and administration through a genuine Panchayati Raj approach to give a new thrust to the rural development and if so, in what manner; and

(b) the outline and time schedule thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Loss of wheat crop due to use of spurious fertilizers

1257. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that wheat crop in thousands of acre of land in Nazafgarh-Isapur Village Complex in Delhi had dried up due to the use of spurious ferilizers;

(b) whether any investigations have been conducted into the allegation; if so, what are the findings thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) whether the suffering farmers are being compensated; and if not the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The farmers of village Dhansa of Nazafgarh block made a complaint in December, 1989 alledging the sale of Single Super Phosphate as DAP. On receipt of the complaint, Delhi Administration was requested to investigate the matter and take necessary action against the offenders.

On investigation by Delhi Administration, it was found that the wheat crop which was about 25 to 30 days old was affected due to drying up to the tune of 15—20 per cent, in patches. The samples taken from left over stocks of fertilisers available with the farmers were analysed at the Central Fertilizer Quality Control and Training Institute, Faridabad. On analysis, it was found that all the four samples were of SSP and not of DAP. Accordingly, FIR was lodged with the police station Jaffar Pur under Section 3,7 and 10 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

(c) There is not provision in law to compensate the farmers by Government. However, after a vigorous follow-up of the complaint, the case has been registered against the offenders and prosecution will start after further investigation by the police.

Welfare measures for beedi workers

1258. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals have been received from Maharashtra Government for the introduction of some new welfare measures for the beedi workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.